

Message Text

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PAGE 01 MAZATL 00314 030033Z

64

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FM AMCONSUL MAZATLAN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 0835

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: CASC, MX

SUBJ: W/W CONTINUATION OF ASSAULTS ON AMERICAN CITIZENS
ON INTERNATIONAL HIGHWAY.

1. ON JULY 29 CONSULATE'S CULIACAN CONTACT TELEPHONED TO ADVISE THAT ANOTHER INCIDENT OF HIGHWAY ROBBERY HAD OCCURRED ON THE INTERNATIONAL HIGHWAY IN VIRTUALLY THE SAME LOCATION JUST NORTH OF CULIACAN WHERE THE OTERO, BURKHART, AND GALVAN ARMED ROBBERIES TOOK PLACE. (SEE MAZATLAN'S 0303 AND 0284).
2. THE VICTIMS IN THIS CASE WERE MR. AND MRS. SILVANO ROBLES, LEGAL RESIDENTS OF THE U.S., AND THEIR TWO U.S. BORN SMALL CHILDREN.
3. WHILE VISITING THE STATE JUDICIAL POLICE CHIEF IN CONNECTION WITH THE OTERO INCIDENT, THE CONSUL ENCOUNTERED THE ROBLES FAMILY IN THE POLICE STATION WHERE THEY HAD BEEN SEVERAL HOURS AWAITING A PROMISED POLICE REPORT OF THEIR ROBBERY. THE ROBLES RELATED THE FOLLOWING: ON JULY 29 AT 4:30 P.M. THE ROBLES FAMILY IN A YELLOW, 1976 FORD GRAN TORINO WITH CALIFORNIA LICENCE PLATES WERE ENROUTE TO THE U.S. AFTER VACATIONING IN PUERTO VALLARTA, AT A SPOT NEAR LIMON DE LOS RAMOS, WHERE THREE SIMILAR INCIDENTS HAD OCCURRED, A RED PICK-UP TRUCK WITH THREE YOUTHS IN IT PULLED UP ABREAST OF THE ROBLES CAR ON THE HIGHWAY AND SIGNED MRS. ROBLES TO

UNCLASSIFIED

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PAGE 02 MAZATL 00314 030033Z

PULL OVER. MRS. ROBLES SAID SHE ACCELERATED TO TRY TO OUTDISTANCE THEM, BUT DISCONTINUED THIS MANEUVER WHEN ONE OF THE MEN SHOT AT HER CAR WITH A SUB-MACHINE GUN. AFTER SHE STOPPED, THE BANDITS ORDERED HER OUT OF THE CAR WITH HER HUSBAND AND TOLD THEM TO LEAVE EVERYTHING EXCEPT THE CHILDREN. WHILE THE ROBLES FAMILY WAS BEING ACCOSTED, ANOTHER PICK-UP TRUCK STOPPED WITH AN OFFER OF ASSISTANCE. ACCORDING TO MRS. ROBLES, A MACHINE GUN WAS POINTED AT HIM AND HE WENT ON HIS WAY.

4. THE CONSUL INFORMED THE POLICE CHIEF OF THE ROBLES' NEED FOR A POLICE REPORT TO MAKE AN INSURANCE CLAIM FOR THEIR STOLEN VEHICLE. AFTER A TWO HOUR WAIT IN THE POLICE CHIEF'S OFFICE, CONSUL OBTAINED THE REPORT AND DELIVERED IT TO THE ROBLES, WHO WERE OUTSIDE AS REQUESTED. THEY WERE MOST GRATEFUL AND INFORMED THE CONSUL THEY WOULD BE LEAVING FOR THE U.S. THE FOLLOWING MORNING.
5. EDITORIALS IN THE CULIACAN PRESS STATE SITUATION OUT OF CONTROL AND ASK FOR INTERVENTION OF THE ARMY IN THE CAPITAL OF THE STATE OF SINALOA TO GUARANTEE PUBLIC ORDER DUE TO THE INEFFICIENCY OR IRRESPONSABILITY OF THE POLICE ORGANS. A CARTOON IN THE SAME PAPER DEPICTS THE EARTHQUAKE IN CHINA AS BEING LESS SEVERE THAN THE WAVE OF VIOLENCE FROM WHICH SINALOA HAS BEEN SUFFERING.
6. ACCORDING TO THE LOCAL PRESS, THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NAYARIT HAVE APPEALED TO THE GOVERNOR TO CALL OUT THE ARMY TO STOP A RECENT WAVE OF KIDNAPPINGS AMONG PROMINENT BUSINESSMEN.

MATTHEWS

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